

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

September 5, 2007

Mr. Dennis Beissel, Project Manager
Mail Stop: T6-D59
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

RE: Comments to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal
of the National Bureau of Standards Reactor – NUREG-1873, CEQ # 20060290.


Dear Mr. Beissel:

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the above referenced project. The DEIS is for renewal of the operating license for the National Bureau of Standards. The renewal would be for additional 20-year period.

Under EPA's system for rating Environmental Impact Statements, we are rating the environmental impacts associated with the operating license renewal as a Lack of Objections (LO -1). A Lack of Objection rating means the review has not identified any potential environmental impacts requiring substantive changes to the preferred alternative. The numeric rating assesses the adequacy of the Environmental Impact Statement. The 1 rating indicates the DEIS adequately sets forth the environmental impact(s) of the preferred alternative and those of the alternatives reasonably available to the project or action. No further analysis or data collection is necessary. A copy of our rating system is attached, and can also be found at:
<http://www.epa.gov/Compliance/nepa/comments/ratings.html>.

If you any questions regarding this issue please feel free to contact Kevin Magerr at (215) 814-5724.

Sincerely,


William Arguto,
NEPA Team Leader

Attachment: